WE CLAIM:

1. A method for of an active connection modify in a connection oriented communication network, comprising the steps of:

appending a trace transit list information element (TTL IE) to a modify mequest message;

transmitting said modify mequest message from a source node to a destination node along said active connection; and

at each node along said active connection, modifying a parameter of said active connection while recording in said TTL IE failure identification data...

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

generating a Modify Reject message at a node along said connection if said node does not enable modification of said parameter;

updating said TTL IE from said modify request message with failure cause information; and

appending said TTL IE to said Modify Reject message and returning said Modify Reject message to said source node.

- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said failure identification data includes the logical node and logical port trace of the failed modify request.
- 4. The method of claim 1, wherein said failure identification data includes failure cause information.
- 5. The method of claim 4, wherein said failure cause information includes vendor specific information.

- 6. The method of claim 1, wherein said parameter is the bandwidth allocated to said connection.
- 7. The method of claim 1, wherein said failure to modify includes the capability of a node along said connection to support the modify of an active connection of said parameter.